

## <sup>3</sup>2 THE CASTAWAYS OF THE FLAG

expected opportunity of shortening  
their stay at  
the Cape.

There happened to be in the harbour a  
vessel, due  
to sail in a fortnight. She was the *Flag*,  
an English  
three-masted vessel of five hundred tons,  
captain  
Harry Gould, bound for Batavia, in the  
Sunday  
Islands. To put in at New Switzerland  
would  
take her very little out of her course,  
and the \*  
passengers for the island were  
prepared to pay a  
good price for their passage.

Their proposal was accepted by  
Captain Gould,  
and the *Unicorn's* passengers  
transferred their  
taggage to the *Flag*.

The three-master's preparations were  
finished in  
the afternoon of the 20th of  
September. That  
evening they said good-bye, not  
without regret,  
to Captain Littlestone, promising to look  
out for the  
arrival of the *Unicorn* at the mouth of  
Deliverance  
Bay towards the end of November.

Next morning the *Flag* sailed, with a  
favouring  
wind from the south-west, and before  
the evening  
of that first day the high summits of the  
Cape, left  
forty miles behind, disappeared below  
the horizon.

Harry Gould was a fine sailor, with  
cool courage  
equal to his resolution. He was now in  
the prime

of life, at forty-two, and had shown his  
quality both  
as mate and captain. His owners had  
every  
confidence in him.

To this confidence, Robert Borupt, -  
the second